

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2290

To provide for the application of measures to foreign persons who transfer to Iran, Syria, or North Korea certain goods, services, or technology that could assist Iran, Syria, or North Korea to extract or mill their domestic sources of uranium ore.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2009

Mr. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. ROYCE, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the application of measures to foreign persons who transfer to Iran, Syria, or North Korea certain goods, services, or technology that could assist Iran, Syria, or North Korea to extract or mill their domestic sources of uranium ore.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “International Uranium
5 Extraction and Milling Control Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Uranium is a naturally occurring element
2 found around the world in low levels in rock, soil,
3 and water.

4 (2) Uranium ore extracted through mining and
5 other methods is the principal component of the con-
6 centrate known as yellowcake, a precursor to the
7 production of highly enriched uranium.

8 (3) Uranium is a necessary element in any fuel
9 cycle capable of producing fissile material usable for
10 a nuclear explosive device, whether such device uti-
11 lizes uranium or plutonium.

12 (4) According to the World Nuclear Associa-
13 tion, over 40,000 metric tons of uranium ore were
14 produced worldwide in 2007.

15 (5) The wide availability of naturally occurring
16 uranium, a favorable commercial environment, and
17 the growing demand for nuclear power may lead to
18 a significant expansion of the production of uranium
19 ore worldwide, including in countries with nuclear
20 weapons programs such as Iran and North Korea,
21 which maintain that their production is intended for
22 peaceful purposes.

23 (6) Over the past two decades, Iran has opened
24 as many as 10 uranium mines. The ore from these
25 mines is estimated to contain concentrations of ura-

1 nium too low to be suitable for legitimate commer-
2 cial use.

3 (7) During the 1980s and 1990s, Syria, with
4 technical assistance from the International Atomic
5 Energy Agency, studied the feasibility of uranium
6 extraction and conducted preliminary extraction ac-
7 tivities. Like Iran, Syria's uranium ore was found to
8 be unsuitable for commercial use.

9 (8) Iran and Syria can make use of their do-
10 mestic sources of uranium ore for military purposes
11 only if they have access to extraction and milling
12 goods, services, and technology from other countries.

13 (9) The significant reserves of uranium ore in
14 North Korea are a potential source for other coun-
15 tries with covert nuclear weapons programs.

16 (10) Unlike other nuclear materials and facili-
17 ties, the processes of extracting uranium ore and
18 milling it into yellowcake are not subject to safe-
19 guards by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

20 (11) Iran, North Korea, and Syria have been
21 sanctioned by the United States and other countries
22 as a result of their nuclear and other programs in-
23 volving weapons of mass destruction.

24 (12) Transfers of nuclear and certain other sen-
25 sitive goods, services, or technology to Iran, North

1 Korea, and Syria are prohibited by the laws of the
2 United States.

3 (13) Foreign persons that make such transfers
4 may be sanctioned by the United States pursuant to
5 the Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation
6 Act.

7 (14) Denying Iran, North Korea, and Syria ac-
8 cess to the goods, services, and technology needed to
9 utilize their domestic sources of uranium ore for
10 their nuclear weapons programs should be a signifi-
11 cant nonproliferation goal of the United States and
12 like-minded countries.

13 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

14 It shall be the policy of the United States—

15 (1) to oppose the transfer to Iran, North
16 Korea, and Syria of goods, services, or technology
17 relevant to their capability to extract or mill ura-
18 nium ore; and

19 (2) to work with like-minded countries to im-
20 pose restrictions on such transfers internationally.

21 **SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE IRAN,**
22 **NORTH KOREA, AND SYRIA NONPROLIFERA-**
23 **TION ACT.**

24 Section 2(a) of the Iran, North Korea, and Syria
25 Nonproliferation Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by redesignating subpara-
2 graphs (A) through (E) as clauses (i) through (v),
3 respectively;

4 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
5 subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

6 (3) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated—

7 (A) by striking “paragraph (1)” and in-
8 serting “subparagraph (A)”; and

9 (B) by striking the period at the end and
10 inserting “; or”;

11 (4) by striking all that precedes subparagraph
12 (A), as redesignated, and inserting the following:

13 “(a) REPORTS.—The President shall, at the times
14 specified in subsection (b), submit to the Committee on
15 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
16 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report
17 identifying every foreign person with respect to whom
18 there is credible information indicating that person—

19 “(1) on or after January 1, 1999, transferred
20 to or acquired from Iran, on or after January 1,
21 2005, transferred to or acquired from Syria, or on
22 or after January 1, 2006, transferred to or acquired
23 from North Korea—”; and

24 (5) by adding at the end the following new
25 paragraph:

1 “(2) on or after January 1, 2009, transferred
2 to Iran, Syria, or North Korea goods, services, or
3 technology that could assist efforts to extract or mill
4 uranium ore within the territory or control of Iran,
5 North Korea, or Syria.”.

6 **SEC. 5. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

7 The Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation
8 Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is further amended by striking
9 “Committee on International Relations” each place it ap-
10 pears and inserting “Committee on Foreign Affairs”.

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